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Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A network facsimile, comprising:

a facsimile function operative to communicate with facsimiles via a public network using a facsimile transmission procedure;

an electronic mail transmission function operative to transmit an electronic mail containing an image in a prescribed format to at least one transmission destination connected to a local or a wide area network;

an electronic mail address memory configured to store an electronic mail address of a transmission destination when the network facsimile transmits an electronic mail to the transmission destination;

an electronic mail address input device configured to input said electronic mail address, designated when said electronic mail is transmitted to said transmission destination, in said electronic mail address memory;

an electronic mail information storing device configured to store at least electronic mail information when the network facsimile receives the electronic mail information;

an electronic mail scrap determination device configured to determine if ~~an electronic a received electronic mail sent from any one of the transmission destinations~~ is to be scrapped when an ~~electronic~~ electronic mail address or a domain assigned to the electronic mail has not been stored in the electronic mail address memory; and

an electronic mail scrapping device configured to scrap ~~[[an]] the received electronic mail stored in the electronic mail storing device~~ in accordance with a determination of the electronic mail scrap determination device.

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2. (original) The network facsimile according to claim 1, further comprising a checking objective selecting device configured to select one of an electronic mail address and a domain as a checking objective checked by the electronic mail scrap determination device.

3. (original) The network facsimile according to claim 2, wherein said checking objective is selected by the network facsimile in accordance with an electronic mail sender.

4. (original) The network facsimile according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising:

a scrap information storing device configured to store scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

a scrap information checking device configured to check contents of the scrap information.

5. (original) A network facsimile according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising:

a scrap information storing device configured to store scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

a scrap information transmitting device configured to transmit the scrap information to a recipient of the electronic mail via any one of the networks.

6. (currently amended) A method for scrapping undesirable electronic mail without opening in a network facsimile, said method comprising the steps of:

storing an electronic mail address of a transmission destination when the network facsimile transmits an electronic mail to the transmission destination via any one of public, local, and wide area networks;

storing at least ~~electrie~~ electronic mail information when the network facsimile receives

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the electronic mail information via the networks;

determining that ~~an electric~~ a received electronic mail ~~sent from any one of the transmission destinations~~ is to be scrapped when one of an ~~electric~~ electronic mail address and a domain assigned to the ~~electric~~ electronic mail has not been stored; and

scrapping ~~[[an]]~~ the received electronic mail in accordance with the determination.

7. (original) The method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of selecting one of an electronic mail address and a domain as a checking objective in accordance with an electronic mail sender before performing the step of determining.

8. (currently amended) The method according to any one of claims ~~[[5 to]]~~ 6 and 7, further comprising the steps of:

storing scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

checking contents of the scrap information before performing the step of scrapping.

9. (currently amended) The method according to any one of claims ~~[[5 to]]~~ 6 and 7, further comprising the steps of:

storing scrap information when the electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

transmitting the scrap information to a recipient of the electronic mail via any one of the networks before performing the step of scrapping.

10. (currently amended) A network facsimile, comprising:

means for communicating with facsimiles via a public network using a facsimile transmission procedure;

means for transmitting an electronic mail ~~containing~~ containing an image in a prescribed format to at least one transmission destination connected to any one of public, local, and wide area networks;

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means for storing an electronic mail address of a transmission destination when the network facsimile transmits an electronic mail to the transmission destination;

means for storing at least ~~electrie~~ electronic mail information when the network facsimile receives the electronic mail information;

means for determining that ~~an-electrie~~ a received electronic mail ~~sent from any one of the transmission destinations~~ is to be scrapped when one of an ~~electrie~~ electronic mail address and a domain assigned to the ~~electrie~~ electronic mail has not been stored in the electronic mail address storing means; and

means for scrapping ~~[[an]]~~ the received electronic mail ~~stored in the electronic mail storing means~~ in accordance with the determination of the electronic mail scrap determination means.

11. (new) The network facsimile of claim 1, wherein the electronic mail address of the transmission destination is automatically stored in the electronic mail address memory, when the network facsimile transmits the electronic mail to the transmission destination.

12. (new) A network facsimile having a facsimile function operative to communicate with facsimile devices via a public network using a facsimile transmission procedure, and having an electronic mail transmission function operative to transmit an electronic mail containing an image in a prescribed format to at least one transmission destination connected to a local or wide area network, comprising:

an electronic mail address memory configured to store at least one of electronic mail address information and domain information of a transmission destination, when the network facsimile transmits a first electronic mail to the transmission destination via any one of public, local and wide area networks;

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an electronic mail information storing device configured to store at least electronic mail information of a second electronic mail received by said network facsimile from an e-mail sender, when the network facsimile receives the electronic mail information;

an electronic mail scrap determination device configured to output a determination whether said second electronic mail is to be scrapped, determined based on whether at least one of a domain and an e-mail address assigned to the second electronic mail is not one to which e-mails have been sent by the network facsimile, based on the address information and domain information stored in said electronic mail address storage device; and

an electronic mail scrapping device configured to scrap said second electronic mail stored in the electronic mail storing device in accordance with said determination of the electronic mail scrap determination device.

13. (new) The network facsimile according to claim 12, further comprising:

a scrap information storing device configured to store scrap information when the second electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

a scrap information checking device configured to check contents of the scrap information.

14. (new) The network facsimile according to claim 12, further comprising:

a scrap information storing device configured to store scrap information when the second electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

a scrap information transmitting device configured to transmit the scrap information to a designated destination via any one of the networks.

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15. (new) A method for scrapping undesirable electronic mail without opening in a network facsimile, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) storing, in an electronic mail address storage device, at least one of domain information and electronic mail address information of a transmission destination, when the network facsimile transmits a first electronic mail to the transmission destination via any one of public, local and wide area networks;

(b) storing at least electronic mail information for a second electronic mail, when the network facsimile receives the second electronic mail from an e-mail sender via the networks;

(c) determining whether at least one of a domain or an e-mail address assigned to the second electronic mail is not one to which e-mails have been sent, based on the address information and domain information stored in said electronic mail address storage device; and

(d) scrapping said second electronic mail if it is determined in step (c) that the domain assigned to the second electronic mail is not stored in said electronic mail address storage device.

16. (new) The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

storing scrap information when the second electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

checking contents of the scrap information before performing step (d).

17. (new) The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

storing scrap information when the second electronic mail is to be scrapped; and

transmitting the scrap information to a designated destination via any one of the networks, before performing step (d).